Community Conversations

Strategies and models designed to provide healthcare and supportive services which allow seniors to "age in place" are the focus of the third part of Healthcare Council's Community Conversations series of programs. The program will be held on March 22, 2019, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Healthcare Council's Jack C. Robinette Conference Center. Lunch will be served immediately following the program.

Two national, expert speakers will share their work in helping seniors "age in place" and facilitate an interactive program on the topic.

Alisha Sanders is director of Housing and Services Policy Research for the Office of the LeadingAge LTSS Center @UMass Boston, in Washington D.C. Her work focuses on strategies and policies that link affordable housing settings with health and supportive services for older adults with lower income to successfully age at home.

Peter Boling, M.D. is a professor of Internal Medicine and chair of the division of Geriatric Medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). His work is centered on geriatric education and on improving care of people with advanced chronic illness with a focus on home-based care. He was instrumental in developing the Independence at Home Act (IHA), which became section 3021 Of the Affordable Care Act. VCU is partnering with the University of Pennsylvania and Medstar Washington Hospital Center in the IHA Consortium. This is one of 19 IHA sites in the United States.

The program is designed for providers from across the continuum of care, consumers, policy makers, thought leaders, community agencies and funders to learn about...
models of care and emerging trends in care for older adults. The program is also designed for interactive learning and discussion, and sharing of ideas and strategies for the future of care for older adults in the region.

The registration fee is $50. To register contact Kim Carter. For more information about the program contact Jane Montgomery.

**PA Rural Health Model Focus of Program**

On March 7, 2019, Healthcare Council is hosting an educational session for members eligible to participate in the Pennsylvania Rural Health Model. The program will feature speakers from the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Rural Health Design Office.

The Rural Health Model is an alternative payment model designed to stabilize cash flow to rural hospitals, align incentives under a value-based model, and help rural communities thrive. The Pennsylvania Department of Health is testing the model as part of a federal government initiative.

The payment model launched on January 1, 2019, with six participating hospitals, four commercial payers, including Medicare and Medical Assistance, as well as Medicare fee for service. The Rural Health Design Office plans to add eligible hospitals for the second year of participation, which will begin on January 1, 2020.

During the educational session, participants will learn about the fundamental principles of the model, technical assistance, and available resources as participants transition to the new payment model.

The program will be held at Healthcare Council's Jack C. Robinette Conference Center from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and a networking lunch will be served following the program.

For more information contact Denis Lukes.

**Issues Briefing on Inclusion and Diversity**

Healthcare Council is hosting an issues briefing for members on the topics of inclusion, diversity and unconscious bias on April 3, 2019. The keynote speaker is James E. Taylor, Ph.D.,
Chief diversity and inclusion officer, and chief talent management officer for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center UPMC.

In his role, Dr. Taylor executes next-generation inclusion strategies that advance the diversity management capability of the organization. Dr. Taylor as chief talent management officer, provides oversight to the design and execution of an integrated roadmap that provides UPMC with technologically advanced employee learning, organizational development, succession planning, and consultative services aligned to the institution's long-term priorities.

Prior to joining UPMC, Dr. Taylor served as chief learning and diversity officer at Carolinas Healthcare System. He earned a doctorate and master's degree in organizational psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University and completed his undergraduate studies at Ithaca College in New York, where he now serves on the Board of Trustees. He also received an executive leadership certificate from the Harvard Business School. He has received awards and recognitions and is actively engaged in philanthropic and community-based endeavors.

Prior to the member briefing, Dr. Taylor will meet with the HR Committee. The program will be held at Healthcare Council’s Jack C. Robinette Conference Center and is offered free of charge. Details and registration information will be sent to members in the near future.

For more information contact Pat Raffaele.

Program Series on New Payment Model

Healthcare Council is partnering with the firm Arnett Carbis and Toothman on a three-part series of programs on the new patient driven payment model (PDPM) for skilled nursing facilities. The series of programs will focus on different components of the new payment model.

The programs will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the Jack C. Robinette Conference Center as follows:

April 10, 2019 - Physical Therapy (PT), Occupational Therapy (OT), Speech Therapy (ST)

May 2, 2019 - Nursing, Nurse Training Act (NTA), Clinical Review, Appropriate Coding Strategies

June 26, 2019 - Recap of PT/OT/SP, Review of NTA, RUG-IV
The faculty for the program from Arnett Carbis Toothman is Ed Klik and Kristopher S. Pattison, RN, RAC-CT. Klik is a partner with the firm’s Health Care Services Team and he has worked with clients from throughout the continuum of care on all aspects of financial statement audits, reviews, cost reports and other aspects of auditing, consulting and accounting services.

Pattison worked in long-term care for more than 20 years and has held several positions, ranging from certified nurse assistant to clinical support nurse. He also has knowledge of state and federal regulations, which enables him to provide support to organizations throughout the survey process. His experience includes working with value-based purchasing, coding, and other quality reporting and rating programs related to skilled nursing.

The cost for the program is $25 per session or $50 for the series of programs. To register for the program contact Kim Carter.

For more information about the program contact Jane Montgomery.

2019 Wage Index Data Scrub

Healthcare Council is once again engaging with the firm BKD, LLP, to perform the wage index review "data scrub" of the Medicare Cost Reports this year. Members planning to participate in this year's "data scrub" are invited to attend an educational session on March 19, 2019 at Healthcare Council's Jack C. Robinette Conference Center.

For the past decade, Healthcare Council has provided acute care members with the opportunity to participate in an annual "scrub" of the Medicare cost report data used in the region's Medicare wage index. This effort has resulted in more than $120 million as a benefit to the Pittsburgh core-based statistical area (CBSA). The "scrub" has also resulted in substantial positive impacts to the Johnstown, Youngstown, Ohio; and the Pennsylvania rural wage indexes.

The "data scrub" process was reviewed at the February 8, 2019, Chief Financial Officer's Committee meeting. The Committee stressed the goal of 100 percent participation in this year's "data scrub" by members in the Pittsburgh and other CBSAs. The Committee also discussed the potential for the same review in additional CBSAs, such as Altoona, Pennsylvania; and Morgantown and Weirton, West Virginia.

For more information contact Denis Lukes.

AHA Appointment

A.J. Harper, president of Healthcare Council, was
recently appointed to serve on the American Hospital Association's Section for Metropolitan Hospitals for 2019. The Section for Metropolitan Hospitals represents the AHA's metropolitan/suburban/urban, suburban, public, and teaching hospital members. The Section participates in the AHA's advocacy, policy and resources development, with a particular focus on strategic opportunities.

For more information on the Section and its leadership, visit www.aha.org.

In Memorial
James M. Redmond

Healthcare Council sadly notes the passing of James M. Redmond, who leaves a legacy as a champion for health care throughout his career. He served as the senior vice president of Legislative Services for the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP).

In his role at HAP, he championed many causes, including the creation of the Children's Health Insurance Program, medical malpractice reform, tobacco settlement reform, and pivotal legislative proposals that improved healthcare in Pennsylvania.

He was instrumental in the development of the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation and the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council.

He held other positions in health care, including at Hershey Medical Center's Emergency Department. After his retirement from HAP, he served as senior advisor to the University of Pittsburgh's Health Policy Institute and as an associate professor in its Graduate School of Public Health.

He is survived by his wife, Candy, daughters Amy and Carrie, and daughter-in-law Jennifer.

Contributions can be made in his name to SaveTheRiver.org; PAWSofPA.org; or Penn State Cancer Institute's Hope for Healing Fund.

HR Survey Update

Healthcare Council will be releasing the Benchmark Compensation Survey to participating members by the end of March 2019.

In the meantime, members can submit information for the Management Compensation Survey and the Physician Practice Survey. Members can also submit updated information for the Collective Bargaining
In addition, Healthcare Council continues to collect data each month for the Monthly Labor Turnover Report.

For more information on data collection contact Steve Forest. For information on Healthcare Council's HR Surveys contact Pat Raffaele.

Upcoming Meetings

(All meetings will be held in Healthcare Council's Jack C. Robinette Conference Center unless otherwise noted.)

**Managed Care Committee**
The Managed Care Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. until approximately noon. Participants will discuss several topics, including a policy of United Healthcare Community Plan. Diana Ellis, director of Provider Relations for United Healthcare will join the meeting. Additional agenda items include Medicare, Medical Assistance, concerns related to payors and proposed legislation. The Committee will also briefly review the new patient driven payment model for skilled nursing. For more information contact Denis Lukes or Jane Montgomery.

**Human Resources Committee**
Medical marijuana and the implications for human resources executives in healthcare organizations will be the primary topic of the Human Resources Committee meeting on March 14, 2019. Mariah Passerelli, an attorney with the firm Cozen O'Connor, will provide the Committee with an update on the impact of the medical marijuana legislation on human resources. The agenda also includes a discussion on workforce retention. In addition, the Committee will discuss the development of a new HR survey for members. The meeting will conclude with a roundtable discussion. For more information contact Pat Raffaele.

Future Meetings

**Chief Operating Officers Committee**
The Chief Operating Officers Committee will meet on March 29, 2019. Details on the meeting will be available in the near future. For more information contact Pat Raffaele.

**Fund Development Committee**
The Fund Development Committee will meet on April 16, 2019. For more information contact Pat Raffaele.

**Educator’s Committee**
The Educator's Committee will meet on April 18, 2019. For more information contact Jane Montgomery.
Accounts Receivable Committee
The Accounts Receivable Committee will meet on April 24, 2019. For more information contact Denis Lukes.

Long-Term Care Quality Committee
The Long-Term Care Quality Committee will meet on April 25, 2019. For more information contact Jane Montgomery.

Other Programs of Interest

Data: The Nuts and Bolts of Effective Information
The western Pennsylvania chapter of the Healthcare Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), will hold a program titled Data: The Nuts and Bolts of Effective Information, on March 20, 2019, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Chatham University, Eastside Campus.

Three members of the Business Intelligence team at Allegheny Health Network will speak on a panel and respond to questions from participants. Panelists include Francis Pessolano, manager of technology innovations in Intelligence Applications at AHN; Karen Dolan, a manager of technology innovations in Business Intelligence System Administration; and Diane Dansevicus, a business intelligence analyst.

The program is offered free of charge. For more information and to register visit www.westernpahimss.org.

HFMA 12th Annual Spring Institute
The western Pennsylvania chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) will host the 12th Annual Spring Institute on March 12th and 13th at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel at Station Square in Pittsburgh.

The program includes session on the changing landscape of healthcare; analysis of physician practices; the patient financial experience; telemedicine; DSH and uncompensated care; nonprofit health care; and other topics.

A.J. Harper, president of Healthcare Council, and Denis Lukes, chief financial officer of Healthcare Council, will provide a Local and State Healthcare Update during the conference.

For more information and to register for the program visit www.wphfma.org.